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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/789,152	02/27/2004	Motokazu Yasui	43780.011401	8994

22850 7590 03/23/2006

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, ANTHONY H	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2854	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4:A

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/789;152	YASUI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anthony H. Nguyen	2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 February 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/14/2006*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 14, 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Konishi (JP 05-131696) in view of Onizuka et al. (JP-2879872).

Konishi teaches an ink jet printer having a housing 1, an ink jet recording head 8 for printing on two sides of a record sheet (P) and a sheet feeding mechanism 6, 10 and 12 which feeds a portion of a printed sheet to a location outside or a sheet output tray 11 and feeds the sheet back into the housing for printing the other side of the sheet via a re-feeding path 13 as shown in Fig.1 of Konishi. Konishi does not teach the controller congfigured to control the sheet feeding mechanism for maintaining or delaying the feeding of the recording sheet for a

predetermined time period to allow the ink drops printed on the first side of the sheet to dry before printing on the second side. Onizuka et al. teaches an inkjet recording apparatus having a controller 30 (Fig.7 of Onizuka et al.) which controls the sheet feeding mechanism so that the sheet is maintained or delayed in feeding a predetermined time period to allow the ink drops printed on the first side to dry before printing on the second side of the sheet (Onizuka et al., Fig.8 and pages 13 and 14, the paragraphs [0033] and [0034]). In view of the teaching of Onizuka et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the inkjet recording apparatus of Konishi by providing the controller which keeps the sheet which is printed on the first side for a predetermined time period to dry the ink before printing the second side as taught by Onizuka et al. for optimizing the print quality on the sides of a sheet.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Konishi (JP 05-131696) in view of Onizuka et al. (JP-2879872) and Goto et al. (US 5,225,881).

Konishi teaches an ink jet printer having a housing 1, an ink jet recording head 8 for printing on two sides of a record sheet (P) and a sheet feeding mechanism 6, 10 and 12 which feeds a portion of a printed sheet to a location outside or a sheet output tray 11 and feeds the sheet back into the housing for printing the other side of the sheet via a re-feeding path 13 as shown in Fig.1 of Konishi. Konishi does not teach the second sheet ejection path having a switchback mechanism and the controller congfigured to control the sheet feeding mechanism for maintaining or delaying the feeding of the recording sheet for a predetermined time period to allow the ink drops printed on the first side of the sheet to dry before printing on the second side. Goto et al. teaches an image recording apparatus having a housing 100 (Goto et al., Fig.2), a paper source or an input cassette or tray 4a, a sheet transportation path having transport rollers 6a,7a,8,9, a first sheet ejection path 10 including ejection rollers (no numeral reference) and a first sheet diverting mechanism 12 configured for diverting the printed sheet to the first ejection

path, a second sheet ejection path 13a having a switchback mechanism 35a, 35b (Goto et al., Figs.5-8), or 62 (Goto et al., Figs.11-13c) including the second sheet diverting mechanism 14c,14d,14e positioned in the second sheet ejection path for directing the recording sheet to an image recording station 3. Onizuka et al. teaches an inkjet recording apparatus having a controller 30 (Fig.7 of Onizuka et al.) which controls the sheet feeding mechanism so that the sheet is maintained or delayed in feeding a predetermined time period to allow the ink drops printed on the first side to dry before printing on the second side of the sheet (Onizuka et al., Fig.8 and pages 13 and 14, the paragraphs [0033] and [0034]). In view of the teachings of Goto et al. and Onizuka et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the inkjet recording apparatus of Konishi by providing the second sheet ejection path as taught by Goto et al. and the controller which keeps the sheet which is printed on the first side for a predetermined time period to dry the ink on the first side before printing the second side as taught by Onizuka et al. for quickly feeding the one side printed sheet to the print head for printing the other side.

Response to Arguments

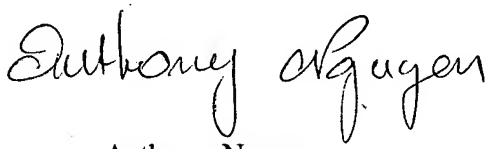
Applicants' arguments filed on December 1, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive in view of the new ground(s) of rejections.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2169.

The examiner can normally be reached daily from 9 AM to 5PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld, can be reached on (571) 272-2168.

The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.



Anthony Nguyen
3/18/06
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800